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The POULTRY and EGG SITUATION

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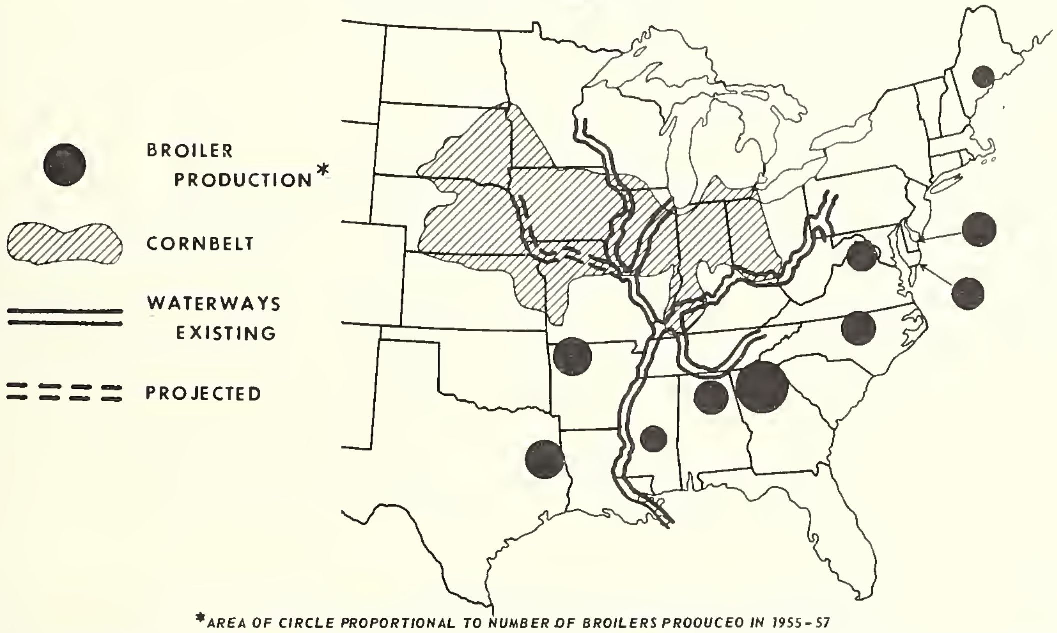
AMS

Waterways Link

SOUTHERN BROILER STATES AND CORNBELT



*AREA OF CIRCLE PROPORTIONAL TO NUMBER OF BROILERS PRODUCED IN 1955-57

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 6869-58 (12) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

Barges now play an important part in bringing surplus corn from the North Central States to the expanding broiler industries of the Southeast. This traffic is of rather recent origin; 10 years ago it was relatively unimportant. But by 1957 waterborne unloads of corn at Memphis and Tennessee River ports were sufficient to have fed out roughly half of the broilers produced in Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia in that year. Navigational improvements in the inland waterways, particularly the development of the TVA-improved Tennessee River, set the stage for this remarkable growth in waterborne corn transportation.

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THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION AT A GLANCE

Item	Unit	Month or date	Average: 1948-57: 1/	1958 1/	1959 1/	Month or date	Average 1948-57	1958	1959	Comments on current situation
					EGGS					
Farm production	Mil.cases	Jan.	14.1	14.6	14.9	Feb.	14.0	13.2	14.2	
Average number of layers on farms	Mil.	Jan.	355.0	317.9	323.6	Feb.	346.3	310.9	318.1	
Rate of lay per layer	Eggs	Jan.	14.3	16.6	16.6	Feb.	14.6	15.3	16.0	March 1 rate was almost 9 percent above year before
Apparent disappearance, shell eggs per civilian	Eggs	Dec.	31.2	29.5	2/28.5	Jan.	32.0	29.0	2/28.4	
Frozen egg production	Mil. lb.	Dec.	5.2	7.8	16.6	Jan.	15.6	14.1	22.8	
Dried egg production	Mil. lb.	Dec.	1.6	0.7	2.8	Jan.	1.6	1.8	3.0	Increases are for USDA purchase program
Price received by farmers	Ct.per doz.	Jan.	41.4	38.9	36.4	Feb.	39.3	36.6	35.4	
Price received by farmers as a percentage of parity	Pct.	Jan.	86	85	78	Feb.	91	84	77	
Retail price (AMS)	Ct.per doz.	Dec.	66.1	64.0	56.4	Jan.	60.5	59.3	56.4	
Egg-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	Jan.	10.7	11.7	10.7	Feb.	10.4	11.0	10.4	
Stocks:										
Shell	Thous.cases	Feb.	217	171	57	Mar. 1	382	105	53	
Frozen	Mil. lb.	Feb. 1	59.8	63.8	47.1	Mar. 1	60.0	59.8	45.0	
Replacement chicks hatched	Mil.	Jan.	---	34.0	35.4	Feb.	---	61.6	59.9	Further decreases necessary to hold year-end flock size to 1958-59 level
Farm price of poultry ration	Dol.per cwt.	Jan.	3.93	3.32	3.40	Feb.	3.81	3.32	3.41	
					POULTRY					
Price received by farmers for chickens, live										
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	Jan.	26.0	19.9	17.4	Feb.	26.4	20.3	17.2	Prices at this level encourage increased hatchings of broilers
Farm chickens	Ct. per lb.	Jan.	22.4	14.7	12.8	Feb.	23.0	15.3	13.1	
All chickens	Ct. per lb.	Jan.	24.9	19.0	16.7	Feb.	25.5	19.4	16.6	
Price received by farmers for all chickens as a percentage of parity	Pct.	Jan.	82	68	62	Feb.	84	69	62	
Retail price of broilers and fryers ready-to-cook (AMS)	Ct. per lb.	Dec.	---	45.3	42.1	Jan.	---	47.0	44.0	
Price received by farmers for turkeys, live	Ct. per lb.	Jan.	34.3	22.6	23.9	Feb.	33.7	24.7	24.9	
Stocks:										
Poultry, excluding turkeys	Mil. lb.	Feb. 1	148.0	122.6	171.4	Mar. 1	129.3	101.5	153.7	Increase is mostly fowl
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	Feb. 1	116.7	179.4	160.5	Mar. 1	102.8	154.4	141.0	
Broiler-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	Jan.	4.9	4.1	3.5	Feb.	5.1	4.2	3.5	
Turkey-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	Jan.	8.9	6.8	7.0	Feb.	8.9	7.4	7.3	
Average weekly placement of chicks in 22 important States	Mil.	Jan.	---	28.1	30.8	Feb.	---	30.3	33.0	

1/ Except where entries relate to December; in those cases they refer to 1947-56, 1957 and 1958, respectively.

2/ Preliminary or partly estimated.

THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

APPROVED BY THE OUTLOOK AND SITUATION BOARD, MARCH 19, 1959

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SUMMARY

An increase in the 1959-60 laying flock over that of 1958-59 is indicated by farmers' intentions as the spring hatching season gets under way. In the intentions, the slight cut in numbers of chicks to be bought is offset by the higher proportion to be bought as pullets. The flock of potential layers is now larger than the year before because of the heavy "out-of-season" hatch in the last 5 months of 1958. As a consequence, if farmers buy as many chicks as planned, next season's laying flock will increase.

It is not yet clear whether farmers will carry out their intentions. Hatchings in February were 3 percent below last year and eggs in incubators March 1 were 2 percent below 1958. These figures indicate that so far farmers are buying fewer chicks than they originally intended. January-June replacement chick hatchings would have to be reduced about 5 percent from last year to avert an increase in the size of the 1959-60 laying flock.

Monthly egg production throughout 1959 is likely to exceed 1958, even if hatchings this spring are reduced as much as 5 percent from last spring. The March 1 laying flock was 3 percent larger than last year, and rate of lay so far has averaged 3 percent above 1958, with the greatest increase - almost 9 percent - occurring on March 1, the latest date reported. During the remainder of the year, rates of lay are likely to be above a year earlier. Flock size in late 1959 will be maintained by the relatively large hatch in late 1958, even if fewer replacement chicks are bought this spring.

Prices will continue below 1958 for some months because of the large supplies in prospect. If hatchings are up to intentions, egg prices will likely be below 1958 throughout the year. But they could rise to or above a year earlier by late 1959 if farmers raise substantially fewer chicks than indicated by their intentions or by hatchery activity to date. Increased demand resulting from population increases could offset small increases in production as far as price effects are concerned.

The U. S. average price of eggs received by farmers in mid-February was 35.4 cents per dozen. Most wholesale quotations since then have moved slightly downward. In 1958 the U. S. average egg price was 36.6 cents in February and rose to 40.8 cents in mid-March on account of storm conditions.

Broiler prices have fluctuated sharply since the lows of late 1958, when they were about 14 cents per pound in Southern producing areas. In mid-January they were 18 cents, the 1959 high to date, but in mid-March they were generally about 17 cents. Despite the small net price increase during this period when prices usually strengthen seasonally, chick placements were sharply ahead of last year, and egg settings in incubators in the 3 weeks ending March 14 were 19 percent above last year. U. S. average broiler prices at the farm in mid-February were 17.2 cents per pound, compared with the abnormally high price of 20.3 cents of February 1958.

Turkey prices have shown mixed trends in the last few months. Prices for frozen heavy toms have risen and were above those for hens in mid-March, while prices of hens and light-weight turkeys have weakened. At a 46-cent top in New York (wholesale) heavy toms in March 1959 were 2 cents above last year, but hens and Beltsvilles were 6-8 cents lower than 1958.

These trends reflect both the unusually large proportion of hens in storage holdings, and the large number of turkeys now growing, most of which are of breeds customarily slaughtered at relatively light weights. Turkey production in 1959 will probably be a record, exceeding both the 79 million birds raised in 1958 and the 81 million in 1957. Hatchings so far have been in excess of farmers' January intentions to grow 5 percent more birds.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Farmers Intend Only Small Cut in Replacement Chicks

Farmers' intentions in February were to buy 1 percent fewer egg-type chicks than in 1958 (table 1). They also intended to buy 66 percent of these chicks as sexed pullets compared with 65 percent last year. If these intentions are carried out, farmers would raise as many replacement pullets this year as last. In addition, the number of pullets not yet laying on January 1 was larger than usual because of the heavy out-of-season hatch in the last 5 months of 1958. If the February intentions should be carried out, the laying flock in late 1959 and early 1960 would be larger than that of the past 12 months.

It is not yet clear whether farmers will follow their February intentions. Farmers may adjust their production plans as a consequence of the intentions survey. The monthly increases in September through December ranged from 21 to 32 percent, but in January hatchings were only 3 percent above the preceding January and in February they were 3 percent below. On March 1 eggs in incubators were 2 percent below the year before (table 2).

Economic indicators point to a smaller hatch of replacement chicks this spring than last. Egg prices during the past few months have been lower than the year before and feed prices higher. In mid-February, the egg-feed price ratio was 10.4 (pounds of poultry ration that could be bought with the value of a dozen eggs), compared with the year-earlier ratio of 11.0 pounds. The mid-March 1958 ratio was 12.0 reflecting a rise in egg prices resulting from unusual weather.

On the basis of past experience, the level of the egg-feed price ratio the last several months would indicate about a 5 percent cut from 1958 in the number of chickens to be raised in 1959 (table 3). A cut of this size would about offset the increase in the late 1958 hatch. A smaller reduction will result in more laying pullets on hand than year-ago throughout 1959, and well into 1960.

Egg Prices Reflect near-Peak Supplies

Egg prices have moved erratically downward since the beginning of 1959 (table 6). Declines at this season are usual, reflecting the increasing volume of egg production. Average egg prices to farmers in mid-February were 35.4 cents per dozen, down one cent from the 36.4 cents of mid-January. In 1958 egg prices were 38.9 cents in January and 36.6 cents in February.

In March 1958, cold weather in producing areas delayed the usual flush of production and boosted mid-March prices contraseasonally to 40.6 cents per dozen. No such trends are apparent so far this March. Wholesale market prices have declined since mid-February. Therefore, this March the average prices will be farther below a year earlier than in the two preceding months.

Egg prices are not likely to increase seasonally for some months. Monthly production has not yet reached the 1959 peak. In fact rates of lay in January and early February were lower than would have been expected on the basis of trends (but March 1 rate of lay was fully up to trend, almost 9 percent above last year). Easter falls on March 29 this year, and demand after that date will no longer reflect Lenten requirements. Storage, both frozen and in the shell, will be the principal outlet in the next few months for increases in production over March levels.

Storage stocks of both shell and frozen egg in early March were near seasonal lows. U. S. holdings of both types of egg on March 1 were below year-ago, and the average of recent years. More recent weekly reports for 35 markets also show declines from last year and average. Therefore, a larger quantity of eggs can be stored this year than last before increasing total storage stocks above last year's small peak holdings.

The quantity of eggs stored in the shell depends on the extent that storers expect prices to rise between the time eggs go into storage and the time they are sold. To encourage shell egg storage, the prospective price rise should be large enough to cover the cost of preparation and storage as well as the effect of loss of quality. For frozen egg or egg solids, there is practically no quality loss and little extra preparation is required for material intended for long-time storage than for short-time. Therefore, less price incentive than for shell eggs is needed to induce seasonal storage of frozen egg. This applies particularly when dark yolk color of the product, most readily available in the spring, is a consideration. Deep color is sought by bakers and noodle manufacturers who rely upon eggs to impart a pleasing yellow color to their products.

Storage of eggs tends to be greater when springtime prices are low. In the first place, the lower the spring time price level, the greater the chances for a substantial seasonal price rise. Second, low springtime prices could cause farmers to reduce the number of replacement chicks purchased. This would reduce the size of the laying flock toward the end of 1959 thereby limiting egg production and encouraging higher prices. Thus, the demand for eggs for storage -- both in the shell and broken-out - is a balance wheel for egg prices, offering an outlet at a time when the need for diversion is greatest. But over the longer run, the importance of storage has declined because of the evening-out of seasonal production and hence of prices. Even producers of liquid egg are now beginning substantial year-round operations.

9 Million Pounds Egg Solids for School Lunches

Since the current program began in mid-October, USDA has bought 9 million pounds of egg solids (dried whole egg) for the National School Lunch Program (table 10). Shell eggs converted into dried form for this use have been equivalent to only about 1 percent of U. S. production of eggs on farms since the program began; but for the October-January period in which production data are available for liquid egg, the purchases were equivalent to 22 percent of the commercial breakings.

Purchases through mid-March were equivalent to about 3/4 of a pound of egg solids per child - equal to 2 1/4 dozen shell eggs - for the 12 million children eating lunches in schools taking full advantage of the National School Lunch Program.

The purchase program is continuing on a week-to-week basis, with sale offers received on Wednesdays being accepted or rejected on or before the following Friday.

Egg Output to Remain High Relative to 1958

January-February egg production was 4 percent larger than the year before, but by the first of March the rate of output was 11 percent higher than March 1, 1958 (table 11). While this rate of increase will not be fully sustained, it indicates a large supply of eggs during the remaining months or 6 weeks of flush production.

Potential layers on hand at the beginning of the year were up 4 percent, but rates of lay in the first 2 months of 1959 did not increase as much as would have been expected on the basis of past trends. However, production from late March through early May, the peak period, will be sharply above January and February. Assuming that the rate of production per 100 birds will be at or above trend levels as it was on March 1, and that flock size will be maintained this spring by the addition of pullets hatched in late 1958, output also will continue above March-April-May last year.

Of the 316 million layers on hand March 1, more were pullets and fewer were hens than a year earlier (table 12). Further, because of the relatively large number of the pullets hatched in late 1958, the number of layers this spring is likely at least to maintain the present 3 percent margin over a year ago.

Rates of lay from this flock are already up from their levels at the beginning of the year. On January 1 the rate of lay was the same as year-ago; on February 1, only 1 percent higher. Both rates were lower than indicated by an extension of trend (table 11). But the March 1 rate of 59.8 eggs per 100 layers was almost 9 percent above last year and fully up to trend. In absolute terms, the rate is likely to rise even further in the next month or 2, and March-May production will exceed last year by a wider margin than the 4 percent increase in January-February. Even if springtime rates of lay are not fully equal to trend during the spring, they still are likely to exceed last year, when they were below 1957 (table 11).

There is probability that monthly egg output during the summer and fall also will exceed a year earlier. Flock size until fall will continue to reflect the large number of potential layers that were on hand January 1, 1959. The number of pullets maturing in the fall may be fewer than last year, but increases in the rates of lay probably will hold production above 1958.

Large Production Continuing for Broilers; Prices Low

After a notable rise in mid-January, broiler prices by early March had slipped back to a level only slightly higher than the distress prices of November and December 1958, when Southeastern prices were generally 14 cents on a flock-run basis (table 13). "Mostly" prices for broilers at farms in Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi were 15 cents per pound in the first week of March and 17 cents later in the month, both on a loss-off basis 1/. The loss-off basis refers to debiting the seller of live birds for the ones that fail to pass inspection during processing. Objective judgment in this respect is now available, since Federal inspection became mandatory on January 1 for practically all processed poultry in interstate commerce. U. S. - wide, average condemnations of broilers for defects which can be attributed to the growers are less than 2 percent.

1/ "Mostly" prices refer to those at which most sales fall, eliminating those parts of the complete range in which there were few sales.

U. S. average prices for broilers were 17.4 and 17.2 cents per pound in January and February, up seasonally from the 15.6 cent average of the preceding 3 months. But wholesale quotations in mid-March and the large number of broilers then growing, suggest that the seasonal price trend may not be maintained.

In past years prices have reached a seasonal peak during the summer when demand is strongest and have been seasonally low during November and December, when demand is weakest. In 1958 , under impact of rapidly rising supplies broiler prices broke in July, a month or two earlier than in preceding years. Judging from current prices and prospective supplies, monthly prices through May this year are unlikely to rise significantly above the January - March average. This reflects large supplies of broilers, and of cheaper more plentiful pork, rather than a shift in the composite pattern of demand for these 2 products.

Even while broiler prices were near their low point, 22-State weekly chick placements never fell below the year before. But at times when broiler prices were temporarily up, eggs set in incubators rose markedly. Hatchings for the first 10 weeks of 1959 were 10 percent above last year. For the three most recent weeks, however (ending March 7), egg settings were 19 percent higher than in 1958. This assures large supplies of broilers for slaughter to early June.

Chicks are now lower in price because of the large number of breeder hens on farms for the production of broiler hatching eggs. One measure of the potential supply of hatching eggs is the number of pullet chicks sold 7 to 10 months previously by the leading breeders; in the months that affect hatching egg supplies for March 1959, this figure was 58 percent above the year before. In December 1958, sales by leading breeders were 4 percent below the year before, the first such decline in 15 months; but January and February sales were again up by 6 percent. These changes will not affect hatching egg supplies until about 6 or 7 months later, when the resulting birds would normally enter hatching egg supply flocks. Broiler chick prices averaged $10.80 per hundred in February, down sharply from $13.80 in February 1958.

Broiler Production in 1958 up 15 percent in 22 Important States

Broiler production increased 15 percent in 1958 in 22 States which produce between 85 and 90 percent of the U. S. output. These are the 22 States for which weekly chick placement data are available.

For those States, the 1958 average price of 18.3 cents per pound was 0.5 cents below the 1957 average of 18.8 cents. In view of the large proportion of broiler production which is accounted for in these 22 States, the U. S. average broiler price for 1958 - to be released in April - will probably show a very similar change. The 1957 U. S. average price was 18.9 cents per pound.

The 22 States covered by this preliminary report are listed in table 15, which shows 1957 and 1958 weekly placements in adjacent columns, by areas. In the table, underlinings mark the few instances where an area's 1958 weekly placement was below the corresponding 1957 weekly figure.

Broiler Exchange in Georgia

A Broiler Exchange is being planned by broiler growers and feed dealers in north Georgia, to operate along lines essentially similar to the Eastern Shore Poultry Growers' Exchange in Selbyville, Delaware.

Poultry Exchanges are essentially auctions, at which flocks are listed in advance of the intended sale date. In the interim, prospective buyers inspect and appraise the flocks, so their bidding on the advertised sale date is on an informed basis.

Because the birds are not moved physically as a part of the sale process, a fee of $1 per 1,000 birds listed is sufficient to cover the costs of the Selbyville Exchange. For this fee, an Exchange employee visits and inspects the flock, and posts a description in the Exchange headquarters. This serves as a check upon the judgment of the field viewer of the prospective buyer; the field viewer had previously used the earlier listing as a basis for judging which flocks were most likely to meet his firm's requirements.

The exchanges usually stipulate the pickup and payment conditions which apply. It eliminates possible misunderstandings about pickup dates or bases for reckoning weights. In addition, the exchange sets standard payment terms for buyers whose credit has been established, and assures payment within a specified interval or the imposition of a penalty in the event of delay.

Exchange selling, particularly if it becomes the dominant mode of selling in an area, could reduce the dependence of processors upon captive flocks as a means of assuring a supply of live chickens. If sufficient volume materializes, sales over such an exchange could serve as a barometer of prices and values.

Increase in 1959 Turkey Crop; Present Prices Up for Toms, Down for Hens

The 1959 turkey crop is likely to be a record, exceeding both the 79 million head raised in 1958, and the 81 million in 1957 (table 16).

Farmers' January intentions were to raise 5 percent more birds than in 1958--15 percent more among Beltsville types, 18 percent more heavy white turkeys, and 1 percent fewer other heavy (Bronze) turkeys (table 18). A larger supply of turkey breeder stock is available than last year (table 19), about in proportion with these generally increased intentions. Hatchings in recent months have been at an even higher level than these intentions indicate, but eggs in incubators on March 1 were 3 percent fewer than a year earlier.

Even if March hatchings are down from 1958 in proportion to the decrease in eggs in incubators, the cumulative increase in poults hatched since September 1 would be 3 million. To fulfill farmers' intentions, a total increase of only 4 million poults hatched in September-August would be sufficient (September-August, are the hatching months related to the calendar year crop (table 20).

Hatchings in the next few months are likely to average above last year, but by a smaller percentage than in past months. If this increase tapers down sufficiently, the total supply of turkey to be available after mid-year may be no more than in 1958. Two factors contribute to this possibility: (a) By mid-year the turkeys hatched before the end of February will mostly have been consumed and (b) Storage holdings then are likely to be below the year before.

For the past 4 months storage holdings of frozen turkey have been running below the year before, and the current large supplies of fresh turkeys are not likely to limit the use of toms from storage. Also, with another large crop coming, storers probably will be unwilling to hold turkeys into another season.

An unusually large proportion of the January 1 storage holdings was hens (table 17).

Current prices for toms are slightly higher than last year, but those for hens and small turkeys are considerably lower (table 21). These price differences are consistent with the composition of storage stocks, and with the current and prospective supplies of fresh turkeys from birds now growing; most of these are light or white-feathered breeds (table 20), and few toms are kept to heavy weights at this season.

U. S. average producer prices for live turkeys, for the seasonally small sales made in that month, were 24.9 cents per pound in mid-February, up only slightly from 24.7 cents the year before, but up considerably from 23.3 cents in December and 23.9 in January. Last year there was a considerable increase in farmers' average turkey prices from January (23.9 cents) to the March-April average of 26.9 cents. In view of the large supplies now growing, and the imminence of Easter (March 29), little further increase is likely this spring.

The Department of Agriculture ended its 1958-59 turkey buying program on February 4, 1959. Since August 1958, the Government purchased 24 million pounds of frozen ready-to-cook turkeys for school lunches (table 9).

Corn for Southeastern Broilers via the Waterways

BY HERMAN BLUESTONE

The movement of corn by barge from the Corn Belt to Southeastern States has grown phenomenally during the past decade. This traffic flows over the inland waterways, shown on the map on the cover of this report. Statistics from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers show that between 1947 and 1957 corn receipts at Memphis and Tennessee River ports mushroomed from only 55 thousand to 879 thousand tons. The 1957 receipts were equal to roughly 1/5 of the total corn produced in Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia, and enough, if used entirely in broiler rations, to have fed out almost half of the broilers produced in those States.

The expanding poultry and livestock industries of the Southeast created the need for more feed than this region produced. This was particularly true of the three-State area, composed of Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia -- the fastest growing broiler region in the United States. Between 1947-49 and 1955-57 grain consuming animal units in this area increased 29 percent; in the same interval corn production increased only 19 percent. Prior to the early 1950's railroads brought in nearly all of the "imported" corn. But during recent years two important developments have contributed to a remarkable growth in waterborne corn movement to Memphis and other barge unloading points on the Mississippi and Tennessee Rivers. These were the navigational improvements in the inland waterways, particularly the TVA development of the Tennessee River, and the series of successive increases applied to the rail freight rates on grain and grain products.

Only a limited amount of grain moved up the Tennessee in 1939, the first year the waterway operated but these modest shipments marked the beginning of a new era of water transportation for the Southeast. In the following years, encouraged by TVA and the barge lines, private grain interests rapidly built up grain handling facilities on the River. During this period Guntersville, Alabama and Chattanooga, Tennessee became important corn receiving ports. Between 1946 and 1951, annual quantities of corn entering the Tennessee River ranged between 25 thousand and 91 thousand tons. In the next six years, from 1952 through 1957, inbound corn traffic increased in each year except 1956. The decline in 1956 was probably in response to the relatively small corn crop in the North Central States in 1955. By 1957 inbound corn movement had swelled to 630 thousand tons.

Memphis, Tennessee enjoyed a growth in corn receipts, via the Mississippi River, similar to that of Guntersville and Chattanooga. As recently as 1946, Memphis received only 6 thousand tons of corn by barge. In 1947 and 1948 receipts were 18 thousand and 11 thousand tons. But in the next two years explosive increases occurred; corn shipments jumped to 81 thousand tons in 1949 and to 240 thousand tons in 1950. Four years later, in 1954, corn shipments reached their peak at 351 thousand tons. From 1955 to 1957 shipments leveled off to a range of 216 thousand to 249 thousand tons.

As touched upon earlier, the size of the corn crop in the North Central States appeared to have an important effect in the year-to-year changes in waterborne corn shipments to the Southeast. In the years when Corn Belt production was greater than the average of the preceding three years, sharp increases occurred in corn movement by barge in the following year. Relatively large corn crops in 1948, 1949, 1952 and 1956 preceded large increases in waterborne shipments in 1949, 1950, 1953 and 1957.

Year to year increases in waterborne corn movement were also associated with short corn crops in Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. Two particularly short crops occurred in these States in 1952 and 1954. A large spurt in corn shipments to Southeastern ports occurred in 1953, following the reduced output in 1952; but only a moderate increase occurred in 1955, following the short 1954 crop, when only an average-sized crop was harvested in the Midwest.

Corn prices declined by more than 1/3 in Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia between 1945-47 and 1955-57. Prices in these States dropped substantially faster than in the important northern broiler States of Delaware, Maryland and Virginia and slightly faster than in the Corn Belt States of Illinois and Iowa. Average prices received by farmers for corn from September through the following January have been used to make these comparisons. These price trends suggest that the cost of moving corn from the Corn Belt to the Southeast has not increased as much in the last 10 years as the cost of moving corn from the Corn Belt to the important northern broiler States mentioned above.

Most of the corn moves on the waterways in the last half of the crop year, April to September. During this period corn in the Midwest sells at its greatest discount relative to corn in the Southeast.

The next issue of The Poultry and Egg Situation is scheduled for release on May 27.

Table 1.--Chickens raised, by regions and United States, 1950 to date, and farmers' 1959 intentions to buy replacement chicks

Year and item	Unit	Region: North Atlantic	East North Central	West North Central	South Atlantic	South Central	West	United States
Chickens raised								
1950	Mil.	90.6	119.7	169.2	63.8	116.7	59.7	619.8
1951	do.	93.8	118.6	170.8	65.4	111.6	62.7	622.9
1952	do.	88.5	107.1	147.8	63.2	96.8	57.6	561.0
1953	do.	90.4	106.6	152.2	57.5	86.3	54.5	547.5
1954	do.	83.6	107.2	150.4	57.8	84.3	56.7	539.9
1955	do.	77.8	88.3	125.6	50.6	67.2	52.3	461.9
1956	do.	74.0	92.4	134.3	53.8	73.0	51.1	478.6
1957	do.	62.4	71.0	106.4	51.2	59.1	46.6	396.6
1958	do.	65.4	77.0	119.6	58.5	65.4	49.8	435.8
Intentions to buy chicks as a percentage of preceding year								
1959	Pct.	103	------94------		104	108	102	99

Table 2.--Monthly hatchings of replacement-type chicks, available data, and replacement-type eggs in incubators, March 1, 1959, and chickens raised, United States, 1954 to date

Item	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958 1/	1959 2/
	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions
Hatchings						
January		32.9	39.3	30.5	34.0	35.4
February		71.2	84.0	56.3	61.6	59.9
March	3/201.5	148.8	149.5	109.4	112.9	4/ (-2)
April	3/193.9	163.9	159.4	129.4	135.4	
May	3/111.5	107.9	108.8	90.8	109.7	
June	3/33.9	32.7	34.7	27.9	40.4	
July		14.9	15.4	11.9	18.2	
August		12.6	14.3	10.2	14.8	
September		14.1	14.8	12.3	16.6	
October		16.6	17.1	13.0	16.9	
November		15.5	14.7	12.2	16.2	
December		17.5	15.9	15.7	19.6	
Total, calendar year		648.6	667.9	519.5	596.3	
Total, 12 months ending July of given year			685.3	533.0	575.6	
Chickens raised, calendar year	540.0	461.9	478.6	396.6	435.8	

1/ Revised. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Derived. 4/ Eggs in incubators first of month as a percentage of preceding year.

Table 3.--Egg-feed price ratio, chickens raised, and pullets on farms, United States, 1925 to date

Year	Egg-feed price ratio (weighted average) 1/	Chickens raised	Pullets on farms, January 1 following	Percentage of preceding year: Egg-feed price ratio (weighted average) 1/	Percentage of preceding year: Farmers intentions to purchase chicks	Percentage of preceding year: Chickens raised	Percentage of preceding year: Pullets on farms, January 1 following
	Pounds	Millions	Millions	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1925	12.9	679		105		103	
1926	13.5	718		105		106	
1927	13.4	750		99		104	
1928	12.2	700		91		93	
1929	13.1	751	253	107		107	
1930	13.8	777	244	105		103	96
1931	10.6	709	230	77		91	94
1932	11.6	736	237	109		104	103
1933	14.3	750	238	123		102	100
1934	10.9	644	212	76		86	89
1935	11.4	658	226	105		102	107
1936	13.1	715	249	115		109	110
1937	9.4	601	215	72		84	86
1938	11.4	651	242	121	108	108	113
1939	12.6	697	254	111	108	107	105
1940	10.4	634	240	83	96	91	94
1941	11.5	745	278	111	109	118	116
1942	13.2	844	319	115	112	113	115
1943	14.7	1,001	350	111	116	119	110
1944	11.2	832	301	76	83	83	86
1945	12.8	890	322	114	96	107	107
1946	11.9	738	281	93	86	83	87
1947	11.3	719	278	95	94	97	99
1948	9.8	615	258	87	80	86	93
1949	12.7	705	287	130	107	115	111
1950	9.6	620	258	76	88	77	90
1951	11.4	623	261	119	96	101	101
1952	9.1	561	238	80	90	90	91
1953	11.3	548	255	124	96	98	107
1954	10.9	540	257	96	100	99	101
1955	9.7	462	239	89	82	86	93
1956	12.1	479	250	125	103	104	105
1957	9.1	397	225	75	91	83	90
1958 2/	11.7 (11.9)	436	245	129	106	110	108
1959 3/	(10.7)			(90)	99		

1/ Weights are as follows: Preceding November, 1; preceding December, 2; January, 3; February, 4; March, 5; April, 3; May, 1. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ For 1959, November through February; comparable 1958 in parentheses.

Table 4.- Chickens raised, pullets on farms January 1 following, and chick sexing, available data, 1930 to date

Year	Chickens raised 1/	Sexed pullets bought as a percentage of total chick purchases	Pullets on farms 2/			
			As reported		As a percentage of chickens raised	
			Oct. 1	Jan. 1 following	Oct. 1	Jan. 1 following
	Million	Percent	Million	Million	Percent	Percent
1930	777			244		31.4
1931	709		240	230	33.9	32.4
1932	736		254	237	34.5	32.2
1933	750		254	238	33.9	31.7
1934	644		229	212	35.6	32.9
1935	658		242	226	36.8	34.3
1936	715		271	249	37.9	34.8
1937	601		248	215	41.3	35.8
1938	651		276	242	42.4	37.2
1939	697		287	254	41.2	36.4
1940	634		292	240	46.1	37.9
1941	745		328	278	44.0	37.3
1942	844	20.9	363	319	43.0	37.8
1943	1,001	17.2	393	350	39.3	35.0
1944	832	20.3	347	301	41.7	36.2
1945	890	18.5	371	322	41.7	36.2
1946	738	22.3	325	281	44.0	38.1
1947	719	26.0	326	278	45.3	38.7
1948	615	30.0	301	258	48.9	42.0
1949	705	31.0	324	287	46.0	40.7
1950	620	32.0	283	258	45.6	41.6
1951	623	33.0	288	261	46.2	41.9
1952	561	37.0	259	238	46.2	42.4
1953	548	42.0	266	255	48.5	46.5
1954	540	49.0	273	257	50.6	47.6
1955	462	50.0	242	239	52.4	51.7
1956	479	53.0	259	250	54.1	52.2
1957	397	60.0	227	225	57.2	56.7
1958 3/	436	65.0	252	245	57.8	56.2
1959		4/66.0				

1/ For farm flock replacement; excluding specialized broilers.
2/ Laying and not yet laying.
3/ Revised.
4/ Intentions to purchase.

Table 5.--Pullets saved and related available data, selected years, 1950 to date

Item	Unit	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959 1/
Replacement-type chicks hatched, 12 months beginning preceding September	Mil.							669.1	528.8	580.3	
Chickens raised	Mil.	619.8	622.9	561.0	547.5	539.9	461.9	478.6	396.6	435.8	
Percentage composition of farmer' purchases of replacement type chicks											
a. Straight run	Pct.	63	62	58	53	45	43	40	33	28	(28)
b. Sexed pullets	Pct.	32	33	37	42	49	50	53	60	65	(66)
c. Sexed cockerels	Pct.	5	5	5	5	6	7	7	7	7	(6)
d. Computed percentage of pullets in total purchases	Pct.	63.5	64.0	66.0	68.5	71.5	71.5	73.0	77.0	79.0	(80)
Pullets among chickens raised (computed)	Mil.	393.6	398.7	370.3	375.0	386.0	330.2	349.4	305.4	344.3	
Number of young birds on hand October 1											
Laying pullets	Mil.	140.7	143.4	142.4	154.5	168.3	147.9	166.6	143.3	155.9	
Pullets not yet laying	Mil.	142.2	144.5	116.6	111.8	104.3	94.3	92.3	83.2	96.5	
Pullets laying and not yet laying	Mil.	282.9	287.9	259.1	266.3	272.6	242.2	259.0	226.5	252.5	
Other young chickens	Mil.	75.5	73.5	58.7	57.6	41.8	35.6	29.9	27.7	31.4	
Pullets and young chickens	Mil.	358.4	361.5	317.7	323.9	314.5	277.8	288.9	254.2	283.9	
Number of young birds on hand January 1 following											
Laying pullets	Mil.	228.7	231.4	215.0	231.3	232.7	211.1	217.4	193.4	207.2	
Pullets not yet laying	Mil.	29.4	30.0	22.6	23.8	24.5	27.4	32.2	31.2	36.6	
All pullets	Mil.	258.2	261.4	237.6	255.1	257.2	238.6	249.6	224.6	243.8	
October 1 pullets (laying and not laying) as a percentage of:											
Replacement-type chicks hatched	Pct.							39	43	44	
Chickens raised	Pct.	46	46	46	49	50	52	54	57	58	
All pullets January 1 following as a percentage of:											
Replacement-type chicks hatched	Pct.							37	42	42	
Chickens raised	Pct.	42	42	42	47	48	52	52	57	56	

1/ Intended purchases of baby chicks.

Table 6.--Egg prices, selected dates, 1959, with comparisons

Item	1958				1959		
	Jan. 15	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Apr. 15	Jan. 15	Feb. 16	Mar. 16
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
U. S. average price received by farmers, per dozen	38.9	36.6	40.8	37.4	36.4	35.4	
Iowa, prices received by farmers, per dozen 1/:							
Grade A Large	28-29	29-30	34-37	30-32	28-30	28-30	27-29
Grade A Medium	25-26	26	31-33	27-28	24-26	25-26	24-26
New York, wholesale prices							
Midwestern, mixed colors, per dozen:							
Fancy heavy-weights	37-39	38½-39½	43-44½	39½-40½	39-41	35½-37	37-38½
Extras 1, Medium	35½-26½	37-37½	42-42½	37-38	35½-37	35-35½	34-35
Nearby whites, per dozen:							
Extra fancy, heavy-weights	41-44	40-42	49½-53	39½-42	42-45	37-40½	37½-40½
Medium	39-40	39-40	49-49½	37-38	38-39	36½-37	34½-36½
Small (pullets)	35-36	33½-34½	41-42	33-34	35½-36½	33½-34½	31-32
Frozen egg, per pound 2/:							
Mixed whole egg, spring pack	28-29	29-30	29½-31	31-33	31-32	3/29-30½	4/ 27½-29
Yolks, plain 5/	54-55	52-57	58-60	61½-63	60½-62	61-62	4/ 60-61
Albumen	14½-15½	12-14	12-14	13½-16	10½-12	10-12	4/ 9½-11
Chicago							
Wholesale price, loose, per dozen:							
Mixed colors, extras, large	35½-36	36½-37½	40-41	37¾	37	33½-34	32½-33
Medium	33½-34	34½-35½	39½-40½	36½-37	34½	32-33	30½-31
Future contracts:							
September delivery (closing price)	40.10	40.30	41.15	42.15	36.15	35.55	33.95
San Francisco, price to retailers, per dozen:							
Grade A, Large	46-49	42-45	46-49	43-46	44-48	43-47	39-43
Grade A, Medium	44-49	38-41	43-46	41-44	39-44	39-43	36-40

1/ "Mostly", except where otherwise stated.
2/ Carlots. Weekly price.
3/ Current pack.
4/ Week ending March 13.
5/ Highest color quoted.

Table 7.--Storage stocks of frozen egg: First-of-month, United States, 1950 to date; weekly, 35 cities, April 1958 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
						(a) Monthly, United States						
1950	54	55	73	117	155	180	188	175	155	133	104	76
1951	47	31	33	62	109	163	190	191	176	151	122	95
1952	67	53	61	84	111	146	166	163	144	124	95	72
1953	50	35	42	65	99	132	160	153	133	110	87	61
1954	42	38	42	92	136	167	186	181	161	139	118	95
1955	75	66	63	84	126	171	194	195	180	155	128	101
1956	74	51	42	61	95	140	172	177	168	152	132	109
1957	87	75	66	78	108	140	167	177	165	147	124	99
1958	75	64	60	53	68	101	134	140	134	117	94	73
1959	57	47	45									
						(b) Weekly, 35 cities						
Weeks		1959						1958				
First	28	22	22	29	34	51	66	70	65	58	48	35
Second	27	22	23	29	37	56	68	69	64	56	46	33
Third	26	21		30	41	60	69	68	62	53	43	31
Fourth	25	22		31	44	62	70	68	60	50	40	30
Fifth	23				47			67			37	

Table 8.--Storage stocks of shell eggs: First-of-month, United States, 1950 to date; weekly, 35 cities, April 1958 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases
						(a) Monthly, United States						
1950	110	380	735	1,296	2,147	3,412	3,667	3,163	2,568	1,558	502	61
1951	34	75	159	309	973	2,083	2,427	2,270	1,615	958	527	230
1952	141	238	942	1,596	2,184	3,184	3,357	2,728	2,169	1,709	1,000	393
1953	153	120	248	375	816	1,431	1,513	1,199	827	494	288	137
1954	89	73	133	442	728	1,348	1,639	1,435	1,031	833	636	325
1955	193	235	258	479	1,183	2,088	2,292	2,244	1,680	1,140	804	333
1956	111	299	306	309	638	1,200	1,453	1,259	1,020	727	616	525
1957	320	328	519	932	1,208	1,719	1,812	1,507	1,174	895	552	302
1958	209	171	105	79	322	705	852	727	494	290	207	140
1959	53	57	53									
						(b) Weekly, 35 cities						
Weeks		1959						1958				
First	39	32	29	47	294	642	707	600	384	235	163	101
Second	28	29	24	69	371	692	686	569	318	217	143	84
Third	24	27		110	438	710	671	530	273	197	131	56
Fourth	23	27		194	517	713	640	488	250	169	109	49
Fifth	42				572			434			118	

Table 9.--Turkeys: U.S.D.A. purchases, 1958 to date, 1/

Contract date, week ending		Purchases: For the week	Purchases: Cumulative	Weekly price range, per lb.	Cost of purchases: For the week	Cost of purchases: Cumulative
		Thousand pounds	Thousand pounds	Cents	Thousand dollars	Thousand dollars
August	1	480	480	35.50-37.00	175	175
	8	1,800	2,280	35.24-37.00	652	827
	15	3,240	5,520	35.47-37.50	1,168	1,995
	22	1,260	6,780	35.40-36.74	453	2,448
	29	1,410	8,190	33.74-34.74	479	2,927
September	5	1,350	9,540	32.73-34.37	447	3,374
	12	1,410	10,950	31.59-33.81	455	3,829
	19	1,590	12,540	31.49-33.63	514	4,343
	26	1,290	13,830	31.98-33.88	425	4,768
October	2	1,020	14,850	32.79-34.58	341	5,108
	9	930	15,780	32.97-35.24	312	5,421
	16	1,170	16,950	32.98-34.57	312	5,816
	23	1,170	18,120	32.32-34.45	395	6,202
	30	1,290	19,410	31.99-33.99	422	6,624
	30	130	19,540	38.90	51	6,675
November	6	1,290	20,830	31.54-33.61	416	7,091
	13	1,290	22,120	31.29-33.03	410	7,501
	20	990	23,110	31.39-33.46	322	7,823
	27	240	23,350	31.37-32.43	76	7,899
December	4	0	23,350			7,899
	11	0	23,350			7,899
	18	210	23,560	32.95-34.10	70	7,969

1/ Specifications call for frozen ready-to-cook turkeys within weight ranges of 18-24 pounds.

Table 10.--Dried whole egg solids: U.S.D.A. purchases, 1958 to date

Contract date, week ending		Purchases: By weight: For the week	Purchases: By weight: Cumulative	Purchases: Case equivalent: Number	Purchases: Case equivalent: Cumulative	Weekly price range, per lb.	Cost of purchases: For the week	Cost of purchases: Cumulative
		Thousand pounds	Thousand pounds	Thousand cases	Thousand cases	Dollars	Thousand dollars	Thousand dollars
October	17	112	112	11	11	1.184-1.2345	136	136
	24	608	720	60	71	1.2144-1.2324	747	883
	31	765	1,485	75	146	1.2124-1.2298	938	1,821
November	7	675	2,160	67	213	1.2218-1.2250	826	2,647
	14	810	2,970	80	293	1.2215-1.2238	989	3,636
	21	720	3,690	71	364	1.2150-1.22	877	4,513
	28	472	4,162	47	411	1.2139-1.2197	574	5,087
December	5	0	4,162	0	411		0	5,087
	12	0	4,162	0	411		0	5,087
	19	0	4,162	0	411		0	5,087
	26	0	4,162	0	411		0	5,087
January	2	158	4,320	16	426	1.2147-1.2278	192	5,279
	9	0	4,320	0	426		0	5,279
	16	405	4,725	40	466	1.2198-1.2378	497	5,776
	23	248	4,973	24	491	1.2300-1.2375	306	6,082
	30	540	5,513	53	544	1.2150-1.2318	663	6,745
February	6	540	6,053	53	597	1.2238-1.2288	663	7,408
	13	428	6,481	42	639	1.2223-1.2278	524	7,932
	20	562	7,043	56	695	1.2146-1.2238	687	8,619
	27	585	7,628	58	753	1.2146-1.2193	712	9,331
March	6	540	8,168	53	806	1.2065-1.2121	654	9,985
	13	450	8,618	44	850	1.1900-1.2008	538	10,523
	19	450	9,068	44	895	1.1160-1.1592	514	11,037

Table 11.--Number of layers on farms, rate of egg production, and total egg output on farms, monthly data, August 1954 to date

Item and year	Unit	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July
		(a) Monthly average data											
Average number of layers on hand	Mil.												
1954-55		283	307	331	342	345	338	328	319	306	294	283	276
1955-56		280	299	321	331	334	331	325	315	305	294	285	281
1956-57		288	306	323	332	336	332	324	314	303	293	282	277
1957-58		283	298	311	318	321	318	311	304	295	287	281	279
1958-59		284	298	312	321	326	324	318					
Eggs laid per 100 layers	Eggs												
1954-55		1,475	1,366	1,384	1,376	1,482	1,548	1,491	1,800	1,844	1,900	1,751	1,672
1955-56		1,537	1,417	1,444	1,412	1,492	1,562	1,586	1,832	1,839	1,891	1,745	1,694
1956-57		1,585	1,452	1,492	1,459	1,559	1,602	1,539	1,861	1,872	1,918	1,772	1,714
1957-58		1,613	1,481	1,478	1,447	1,574	1,655	1,551	1,798	1,863	1,934	1,794	1,752
1958-59		1,650	1,517	1,546	1,532	1,614	1,659	1,604					
Total monthly egg production	Mil. cs.												
1954-55		11.6	11.7	12.7	13.1	14.2	14.5	13.6	15.9	15.7	15.5	13.8	12.8
1955-56		11.9	11.8	12.9	13.0	13.8	14.4	14.3	16.0	15.6	15.5	13.8	13.2
1956-57		12.7	12.3	13.4	13.4	14.5	14.8	13.8	16.2	15.8	15.6	13.9	13.2
1957-58		12.7	12.3	12.8	12.8	14.0	14.6	13.2	15.2	15.3	15.4	14.0	13.6
1958-59		13.0	12.5	13.4	13.7	14.6	14.9	14.2					
		(b) First-of-month data											
Number of layers on hand	Mil.												
1954-55		274	291	323	339	346	344	332	325	312	300	287	278
1955-56		274	285	314	328	335	333	329	321	309	300	289	281
1956-57		281	294	317	329	334	337	328	320	309	298	287	277
1957-58		277	289	307	315	321	321	314	307	300	290	283	278
1958-59		280	289	306	317	326	327	320	316				
Eggs laid per 100 layers	Eggs												
1954-55		48.6	46.5	44.5	44.8	46.9	48.7	51.1	55.4	60.7	62.3	60.3	56.6
1955-56		51.2	47.9	46.6	46.7	47.6	48.7	52.0	57.4	60.8	61.8	60.3	56.1
1956-57		53.2	49.0	47.8	48.5	48.8	51.7	51.7	58.2	61.9	63.0	60.8	57.3
1957-58		53.3	50.7	48.0	47.4	49.1	52.5	54.3	55.1	60.9	63.3	61.5	58.1
1958-59		54.9	51.6	49.5	50.3	51.9	52.3	54.8	59.8				
Daily rate of egg production	Mil. eggs												
1954-55		133	135	144	152	162	168	170	180	190	187	173	158
1955-56		140	137	146	153	159	162	171	184	188	185	174	157
1956-57		150	144	152	160	163	174	169	186	191	188	175	159
1957-58		148	147	148	149	158	168	171	169	182	184	174	161
1958-59		153	148	151	159	169	171	176	189				

Table 12.--Composition of flocks, October 1 and January 1 following, 1931 to date

Year	Hens				Pullets						Other young chickens, Oct. 1	Pullets not yet laying, Jan. 1 following		Total of listed categories for respective dates	
	Oct. 1		Jan. 1 following		Oct. 1				Laying, Jan. 1 following						
					Number										
	Number	As a percentage of Jan. 1 pullets	Number	As a percentage of Oct. 1 hens	Laying	Not yet laying	Total	Total as a percentage of chickens raised	Number	As a percentage of Oct. 1 laying and not yet laying		Number	As a percentage of Oct. 1 "other young chickens"	Oct. 1	Jan. 1 following 1/
	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Mil.
1931	195	80	156	80	84	156	240	34	185	77	122	44	36	557	385
1932	189	82	154	81	88	167	254	35	192	76	133	45	34	576	391
1933	184	78	147	80	87	167	254	34	196	77	130	42	32	568	385
1934	180	76	139	77	79	149	229	36	172	75	102	40	39	511	351
1935	171	81	136	80	88	154	242	37	186	77	104	40	38	517	362
1936	164	73	130	79	101	110	271	38	210	77	119	39	33	554	379
1937	171	69	138	81	89	159	248	41	173	70	85	42	49	504	353
1938	158	73	134	85	100	175	276	42	194	70	102	48	47	536	376
1939	167	69	139	83	101	186	287	41	202	70	111	51	46	565	392
1940	158	62	141	89	112	180	292	46	192	66	98	48	49	548	381
1941	166	69	150	90	123	205	328	44	221	67	113	57	50	607	428
1942	183	66	170	93	137	227	363	43	255	70	115	63	55	661	488
1943	228	71	174	76	124	269	393	39	282	72	151	67	44	772	523
1944	229	65	172	75	134	212	347	42	254	73	100	47	47	676	473
1945	214	71	151	71	128	243	371	42	269	73	137	53	39	722	473
1946	202	63	150	74	126	199	325	44	244	75	87	37	43	614	431
1947	198	70	140	71	131	195	326	45	243	75	86	35	41	610	418
1948	193	69	141	73	125	176	301	49	227	75	70	31	44	564	399
1949	184	71	137	74	140	185	324	46	255	78	75	32	43	583	424
1950	189	66	141	75	141	142	283	46	229	81	75	29	39	547	399
1951	179	69	136	76	143	144	288	46	231	80	74	30	41	541	397
1952	172	66	135	79	142	117	259	46	215	83	59	23	39	490	373
1953	156	66	116	74	154	112	266	49	231	87	58	24	41	480	371
1954	154	60	111	72	168	104	273	50	233	85	42	25	60	469	369
1955	166	65	122	73	148	94	242	52	211	87	36	27	75	444	360
1956	150	63	119	79	167	92	259	54	217	84	30	32	107	439	368
1957 2/	164	66	128	78	143	83	226	57	193	85	28	31	111	418	352
1958 3/	150	67	120	80	156	97	252	58	207	82	31	37	119	433	364
1959															

1/ For January 1, these are "potential layers"; for October 1, these differ from potential layers by the inclusion of "other young chickens."

2/ Revised.

3/ Preliminary.

Table 13.--Broilers: Prices per pound, selected areas, January 1954 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.
(a) U. S. mid-month average price received by farmers, live												
1954	24.2	22.6	23.5	24.3	23.7	24.4	25.4	24.9	23.0	21.0	20.1	19.2
1955	24.4	25.4	29.7	28.4	27.0	27.2	26.5	26.9	25.2	22.0	21.2	19.4
1956	20.6	21.4	21.9	20.8	21.1	20.2	21.4	19.6	18.2	17.2	16.8	16.6
1957	18.0	19.5	19.5	18.8	19.3	20.7	21.4	20.7	18.1	17.0	16.9	16.4
1958	19.9	20.3	21.5	19.3	20.1	21.0	19.4	18.0	16.6	15.8	15.9	15.1
1959	17.4	17.2										
(b) Del-Mar-Va, average price, live 1/												
1954	22.2	20.9	21.9	25.1	21.8	24.7	25.3	25.0	24.1	18.0	21.8	19.1
1955	25.1	26.9	29.8	32.0	25.2	28.1	28.0	28.0	26.9	20.8	18.7	19.7
1956	21.5	22.9	22.9	20.9	21.2	19.1	22.9	19.3	18.4	18.1	16.4	17.2
1957	18.1	20.8	21.9	20.2	19.1	21.8	22.1	21.8	19.2	17.0	16.7	16.1
1958	18.8	20.3	22.3	19.2	21.4	22.3	20.7	18.5	16.2	15.7	17.0	15.0
1959	16.8	16.5	16.9									
(c) North Georgia, price at farm, live 1/												
1954	22.0	22.0	23.3	23.8	21.4	22.2	24.5	25.2	22.6	18.2	21.0	18.7
1955	22.0	23.7	28.1	29.9	25.3	26.5	24.3	26.0	25.0	21.0	21.1	18.7
1956	21.3	21.1	21.0	19.6	20.0	18.2	21.4	18.8	16.6	17.0	16.0	15.1
1957	16.4	19.6	19.8	19.1	17.8	20.1	20.2	20.0	17.6	15.8	15.6	16.2
1958	17.7	19.2	21.0	18.2	19.8	20.0	19.2	17.0	15.4	15.8	15.9	14.4
1959	15.1	15.2	15.7									
(d) San Joaquin Valley of California, country paying price 1/												
1954	25.4	26.5	25.0	24.5	24.1	28.4	25.5	28.5	24.6	24.0	24.2	21.5
1955	22.4	26.0	30.6	33.0	27.5	30.0	28.0	29.0	28.1	23.8	21.0	20.7
1956	21.1	22.1	21.1	21.6	22.0	22.0	23.5	23.0	21.5	18.6	16.4	17.0
1957	22.8	19.5	24.6	19.2	19.6	22.0	22.0	22.3	20.6	16.5	16.6	16.8
1958	18.9	21.9	23.6	20.6	21.6	22.0	21.9	19.4	17.6	15.8	18.2	15.6
1959	17.6	18.4	18.7									
(e) Chicago, eviscerated broilers, wholesale 1/												
1954	39.7	37.4	39.1	39.2	36.1	37.7	40.5	41.1	37.6	32.5	35.4	32.5
1955	35.8	38.8	45.2	47.2	41.0	42.6	39.8	42.2	32.6	35.2	34.2	32.2
1956	36.3	35.9	35.8	33.6	33.6	32.0	35.2	32.5	30.1	28.6	27.8	26.3
1957	29.3	33.8	33.6	32.5	29.4	33.9	33.4	33.6	30.5	27.5	26.8	27.2
1958	29.2	32.2	35.0	31.5	33.9	34.2	2/32.8	29.8	27.1	27.6	28.4	25.8
1959	26.1	27.3	28.0									
(f) New York, N. Y. dressed broilers, 2½ lb., wholesale 1/												
1954	30.1	28.4	28.6	32.2	29.3	30.6	31.0	30.2	30.2	25.0	26.7	25.0
1955	31.7	32.7	35.6	37.0	31.2	35.0	34.1	33.0	33.4	25.9	26.8	24.2
1956	27.4	27.0	27.4	25.0	26.6	26.8	28.1	24.8	24.2	22.8	21.1	22.2
1957	24.2	25.2	26.8	25.4	24.6	26.5	27.1	27.4	26.8	22.8	23.8	22.8
1958	24.6	26.6	27.3	26.6	28.0	28.3	2/27.1	23.8	22.5	20.5	21.5	20.6
(g) New York, iced packed, 2-3 pounds, eviscerated, f.o.b. 1/												
1958	31.7	33.4	36.4	32.4	34.6	34.7	32.4	30.0	27.5	27.9	28.5	26.0
1959	28.0	28.6	28.6									

1/ First full week of month. 2/ 4 day average.

Table 14.--Monthly price and supply of broilers, and red meat supply, 1953 to date

Year	Unit	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average (weighted) or total
(a) U. S. average mid-month broiler price, per lb.														
1953	Ct.	27.9	27.7	28.1	28.0	27.2	26.2	28.3	27.9	27.1	26.7	26.0	23.2	27.1
1954	Ct.	24.2	22.6	23.5	24.3	23.7	24.4	25.4	24.9	23.0	21.0	20.1	19.2	23.1
1955	Ct.	24.4	25.4	29.7	28.4	27.0	27.2	26.5	26.9	25.2	22.0	21.2	19.4	25.2
1956	Ct.	20.6	21.4	21.9	20.8	21.1	20.2	21.4	19.6	18.2	17.2	16.8	16.6	19.6
1957	Ct.	18.0	19.5	19.5	18.8	19.3	20.7	21.4	20.7	18.1	17.0	16.9	16.4	18.9
1958	Ct.	19.9	20.3	21.5	19.3	20.1	21.0	19.4	18.0	16.6	15.8	15.9	15.1	1/18.6
1959	Ct.	17.4	17.2											
(b) Lagged monthly hatchings of broiler chicks, (except total which is U. S. broiler production) 2/														
1954	Mil.						3/106.8	3/110.3	3/108.4	3/95.3				1,047.8
1955	Mil.				81.2	92.1	105.4	109.7	115.9	111.8	111.0	98.8	86.9	1,091.7
1956	Mil.	93.4	95.9	102.7	110.9	114.9	132.4	134.9	142.6	137.9	128.4	123.1	106.9	4/1,343.7
1957	Mil.	107.3	107.8	108.8	128.6	122.4	139.3	141.3	147.6	141.9	143.5	132.2	119.4	5/1,451.7
1958	Mil.	119.7	116.4	126.5	140.0	137.2	151.3	163.0	180.7	177.6	172.0	153.0	130.3	
1959	Mil.	133.5	133.6	148.0	151.9	148.2								
(c) Monthly commerical production of red meats														
1953	Mil. lb.	2,113	1,745	1,897	1,863	1,739	1,821	1,823	1,786	1,965	2,172	2,116	2,152	23,192
1954	Mil. lb.	2,062	1,735	2,020	1,818	1,792	1,912	1,876	1,930	2,071	2,120	2,199	2,270	23,805
1955	Mil. lb.	2,192	1,854	2,176	1,929	1,964	2,001	1,815	2,158	2,227	2,324	2,398	2,433	25,471
1956	Mil. lb.	2,474	2,182	2,264	2,107	2,147	2,059	2,078	2,136	2,070	2,511	2,411	2,204	26,643
1957	Mil. lb.	2,439	2,027	2,098	2,041	2,166	1,917	2,099	2,084	2,098	2,405	2,097	2,096	25,567
1958	Mil. lb.	2,267	1,809	1,908	1,987	1,948	1,935	2,011	1,941	2,119	2,315	1,969	2,185	24,394
1959	Mil. lb.	2,244												

1/ Simple average.

2/ Through 1957, lagged 3 months; thereafter, lagged 2 months.

3/ Derived.

4/ Revised.

5/ Preliminary.

Table 15.--Chick placements, by weeks, 22 important States, 1957 and 1958

Week ending	Maine		Conn.		Penn.		Ind.		Ill.		Mo.		Del.		Md.		Va.		W. Va.		N. C.		S. C.	
	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958
Jan. 4	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.7	1.9	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.2	1.1	0.4	0.5	1.8	2.5	0.3	0.3
11	1.0	1.1	.5	.6	.6	.7	.8	.8	.1	.1	.5	.6	2.1	2.0	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.1	.5	.5	1.8	2.5	.3	.4
18	1.0	1.1	.4	.5	.6	.7	.7	.9	.1	.1	.5	.7	2.1	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.1	.5	.5	2.0	2.4	.3	.3
25	1.0	1.1	.5	.6	.7	.7	.7	.9	.1	.1	.5	.7	2.1	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.2	.4	.5	1.9	2.7	.3	.4
Feb. 1	0.9	1.1	.5	.6	.7	.8	.9	.9	.1	.2	.6	.7	2.2	2.0	1.4	1.6	1.3	1.2	.5	.6	2.1	2.5	.3	.3
8	.9	1.1	.6	.6	.8	1.0	.8	.8	.2	.2	.6	.8	1.9	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.2	1.2	.5	.5	2.0	2.6	.3	.3
15	.9	1.1	.5	.6	.7	.8	.7	.8	.2	.2	.6	.6	2.0	1.9	1.5	1.7	1.1	1.3	.5	.5	2.0	2.6	.3	.4
22	.9	1.0	.6	.6	.6	.9	.8	1.0	.2	.1	.6	.7	1.8	2.0	1.5	1.7	1.2	1.3	.5	.5	2.0	2.7	.3	.3
Mar. 1	1.0	1.1	.5	.6	.7	.8	.8	1.0	.2	.1	.6	.7	1.9	1.9	1.4	1.8	1.2	1.2	.5	.5	2.0	2.8	.3	.3
8	1.0	1.1	.6	.6	.7	.9	.9	1.0	.2	.2	.5	.6	2.1	2.0	1.5	1.6	1.2	1.2	.6	.5	2.0	2.9	.3	.3
15	.9	1.1	.6	.7	.7	.9	.8	.9	.3	.1	.6	.6	2.1	2.0	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.1	.5	.5	2.0	2.8	.3	.4
22	.9	1.0	.6	.7	.7	.9	.9	.9	.2	.2	.6	.7	2.1	1.8	1.6	1.8	1.3	1.1	.5	.5	2.1	2.5	.3	.3
29	1.0	1.1	.6	.7	.6	.8	.9	.9	.2	.2	.7	.7	2.1	1.7	1.6	1.9	1.4	1.1	.5	.6	2.0	2.6	.3	.3
Apr. 5	.9	1.1	.5	.6	.7	1.0	.8	.9	.2	.1	.7	.7	2.0	2.0	1.6	1.7	1.4	1.4	.6	.5	2.0	2.8	.3	.3
12	.9	1.1	.6	.7	.7	1.0	1.0	.9	.2	.2	.6	.7	2.1	2.1	1.6	1.8	1.4	1.4	.5	.6	2.1	2.9	.4	.4
19	1.0	1.1	.5	.6	.8	.9	1.0	1.0	.2	.2	.5	.8	2.0	2.3	1.7	1.7	1.4	1.4	.6	.6	2.2	2.9	.3	.4
26	1.0	1.2	.6	.6	.9	.9	.9	.9	.2	.2	.6	.7	2.0	2.1	1.8	1.9	1.3	1.3	.6	.6	2.3	3.0	.3	.4
May 3	1.0	1.2	.6	.7	.9	.9	.9	1.0	.2	.2	.6	.8	1.9	2.2	1.6	1.7	1.4	1.3	.6	.6	2.3	3.1	.3	.4
10	1.1	1.2	.7	.7	1.0	.9	.9	1.1	.2	.2	.6	.8	1.9	2.0	1.7	2.0	1.2	1.4	.5	.6	2.3	3.2	.4	.4
17	1.0	1.3	.6	.6	.9	1.0	.9	1.0	.2	.2	.6	.9	1.8	2.2	1.7	1.9	1.2	1.5	.6	.6	2.4	3.2	.3	.3
24	1.1	1.2	.7	.7	.8	.9	.9	1.1	.2	.2	.7	.9	2.2	2.2	1.5	2.0	1.2	1.5	.5	.7	2.3	3.2	.3	.4
31	1.0	1.2	.6	.8	.8	.9	.9	1.1	.2	.2	.6	.8	2.0	2.2	1.6	2.0	1.3	1.5	.6	.7	2.3	3.3	.4	.4
June 7	1.1	1.3	.6	.7	.8	.9	1.1	1.0	.2	.2	.7	.8	2.0	2.2	1.6	2.0	1.2	1.5	.6	.7	2.4	3.2	.4	.4
14	1.1	1.3	.7	.8	.8	1.0	1.0	1.1	.2	.2	.6	.8	1.9	2.2	1.6	2.1	1.4	1.5	.5	.7	2.4	3.2	.3	.4
21	1.1	1.3	.7	.8	.9	1.0	1.1	1.1	.2	.2	.6	.9	2.0	2.1	1.7	2.0	1.2	1.6	.6	.7	2.5	3.2	.3	.4
28	1.0	1.3	.6	.7	.7	1.0	1.1	1.2	.1	.2	.6	.8	1.9	2.1	1.7	2.1	1.4	1.6	.5	.6	2.4	3.2	.3	.4
July 5	1.0	1.3	.6	.7	.6	1.0	1.1	1.0	.2	.2	.7	.8	2.0	2.3	1.8	2.0	1.4	1.5	.5	.7	2.4	3.2	.4	.4
12	1.0	1.3	.6	.7	.7	.9	1.0	1.1	.2	.2	.7	.7	2.1	2.1	1.7	2.0	1.5	1.5	.6	.7	2.3	3.1	.4	.4
19	1.0	1.3	.6	.6	.8	1.1	1.0	1.0	.2	.2	.7	.7	2.0	2.2	1.5	1.9	1.3	1.4	.6	.7	2.2	3.0	.4	.4
26	1.0	1.2	.5	.6	.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	.2	.2	.7	.8	1.8	2.0	1.6	2.0	1.3	1.4	.6	.7	2.3	3.0	.3	.4
Aug. 2	1.0	1.3	.6	.5	.7	.9	1.0	.9	.2	.2	.6	.7	1.8	2.0	1.5	1.9	1.4	1.3	.5	.6	2.3	2.9	.3	.4
9	1.0	1.3	.6	.6	.8	.9	1.0	1.0	.2	.2	.7	.8	1.8	1.9	1.5	1.8	1.3	1.3	.6	.7	2.3	2.9	.3	.4
16	1.0	1.3	.6	.6	.8	.9	.9	.9	.2	.2	.6	.7	1.8	1.9	1.5	1.8	1.3	1.3	.6	.7	2.1	2.8	.3	.4
23	1.0	1.3	.5	.7	.8	.8	.8	.9	.2	.2	.7	.7	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.9	1.2	1.3	.5	.7	2.1	2.7	.3	.4
30	1.0	1.2	.5	.6	.7	.9	.8	.9	.1	.2	.5	.7	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.3	1.2	.5	.7	2.1	2.6	.3	.4
Sept. 6	.9	1.2	.6	.6	.7	.9	.9	.9	.2	.2	.4	.6	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.9	1.3	1.2	.5	.5	2.1	2.6	.3	.3
13	.9	1.2	.6	.5	.7	.8	.8	.9	.2	.2	.4	.6	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.2	1.1	.5	.6	2.1	2.6	.3	.3
20	.8	1.0	.5	.5	.6	.7	.8	.8	.1	.2	.4	.6	1.9	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.2	1.0	.5	.5	2.0	2.6	.3	.3
27	.9	1.1	.5	.5	.6	.7	.7	.7	.1	.2	.5	.5	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.2	1.1	.4	.4	2.0	2.5	.3	.3
Oct. 4	.9	1.2	.5	.4	.7	.8	.8	.8	.2	.2	.5	.6	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.2	1.0	.5	.6	2.1	2.6	.3	.3
11	.9	1.1	.5	.5	.5	.6	.7	.7	.1	.2	.4	.6	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.7	1.1	1.1	.5	.5	2.1	2.6	.3	.4
18	.9	1.2	.5	.4	.7	.6	.7	.7	.1	.1	.4	.5	1.8	1.4	1.3	1.6	1.0	.9	.3	.4	2.0	2.5	.3	.4
25	1.0	1.1	.5	.4	.6	.6	.9	.7	.1	.1	.4	.6	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.1	.8	.3	.5	2.0	2.5	.3	.3
Nov. 1	.9	1.1	.5	.4	.7	.8	.8	.7	.1	.2	.5	.5	1.6	1.8	1.4	1.6	1.2	.9	.5	.6	2.0	2.5	.3	.3
8	1.0	1.1	.4	.5	.7	.8	.9	.8	.1	.2	.5	.7	1.7	1.3	1.4	1.9	1.1	.8	.4	.6	2.0	2.7	.3	.3
15	.9	1.2	.4	.4	.9	.8	.9	.8	.1	.2	.5	.7	1.9	1.3	1.3	1.9	1.1	.9	.4	.6	2.1	2.5	.3	.4
22	1.0	1.1	.4	.6	.8	.8	.8	.8	.2	.2	.4	.7	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.2	.9	.5	.5	2.1	2.6	.3	.4
29	.9	1.1	.5	.6	.8	.9	.8	.9	.1	.1	.4	.7	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.0	.4	.5	2.1	2.7	.4	.4
Dec. 6	1.0	1.1	.5	.6	.8	.9	.8	.9	.1	.2	.6	.7	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.2	1.0	.3	.5	2.1	2.7	.3	.4
13	1.0	1.2	.5	.6	.7	1.0	.9	.9	.1	.2	.5	.7	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.1	1.0	.4	.5	2.1	2.8	.4	.4
20	1.0	1.2	.6	.6	.8	.9	.9	.8	.1	.2	.6	.7	1.9	1.6	1.5	2.0	1.1	1.1	.4	.5	2.2	2.8	.3	.4
27	1.0	1.2	.6	.6	.7	.7	.9	.7	.1	.1	.5	.7	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.9	1.0	1.1	.4	.6	2.0	2.3	.4	.3
Total	50.4	60.3	28.6	31.4	38.2	44.5	45.2	46.9	8.5	9.1	29.2	36.6	98.7	96.9	81.0	93.5	65.4	63.0	25.6	30.0	111.0	145.1	16.8	18.7

Continued -

Table 15.--Chick placements, by weeks, 22 important States, 1957 and 1958 with comparisons -Continued

Week ending	Ga.		Fla.		Ala.		Miss.		Ark.		La.		Tex.		Wash.		Ore.		Calif.		Total 22 States	
	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958
Jan. 4	4.4	5.5	0.2	0.2	1.9	2.4	1.2	1.4	2.0	2.4	0.3	0.3	2.0	2.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.9	23.8	27.1
11	4.8	5.5	.2	.3	2.0	2.2	1.2	1.3	2.1	2.4	.3	.4	2.2	2.1	.2	.2	.1	.1	.8	.9	24.8	27.5
18	4.8	5.5	.2	.2	1.9	2.2	1.3	1.3	2.0	2.5	.3	.3	2.1	2.0	.1	.3	.2	.2	.9	.9	24.9	27.1
25	5.2	6.0	.2	.2	2.2	2.4	1.3	1.5	2.2	2.7	.3	.4	2.3	2.2	.2	.3	.1	.1	.9	.9	26.1	29.2
Feb. 1	5.2	6.1	.2	.2	2.1	2.6	1.3	1.5	2.4	2.6	.3	.4	2.2	2.3	.2	.2	.2	.2	.9	.9	26.7	29.5
8	5.2	6.2	.2	.2	2.1	2.5	1.5	1.5	2.3	2.7	.3	.4	2.3	2.3	.2	.3	.2	.2	1.0	.9	26.8	29.6
15	5.2	6.1	.2	.2	2.2	2.4	1.4	1.6	2.3	2.8	.3	.4	2.2	2.2	.2	.3	.2	.2	.9	1.1	26.3	30.0
22	5.3	6.1	.3	.2	2.2	2.4	1.4	1.8	2.4	2.9	.4	.5	2.2	2.4	.3	.3	.2	.2	.8	1.0	26.4	30.8
Mar. 1	5.4	6.2	.2	.2	2.2	2.8	1.4	1.6	2.3	2.7	.4	.5	2.0	2.5	.3	.3	.1	.2	.8	1.0	26.3	30.8
8	5.4	6.3	.2	.3	2.2	2.6	1.4	1.7	2.4	2.7	.4	.5	2.0	2.5	.2	.3	.1	.2	.8	1.0	26.8	30.9
15	5.4	6.0	.2	.2	2.1	2.7	1.4	1.6	2.4	2.6	.4	.4	2.3	2.4	.2	.3	.1	.2	.9	.9	27.4	29.9
22	5.3	5.8	.2	.2	2.2	2.5	1.4	1.5	2.6	2.5	.3	.4	2.1	2.4	.3	.3	.2	.2	1.0	1.1	27.6	29.3
29	5.4	6.1	.2	.2	2.2	2.6	1.4	1.5	2.4	2.6	.4	.5	2.1	2.4	.3	.4	.1	.2	1.0	1.0	27.5	30.1
Apr. 5	5.5	6.5	.2	.3	2.3	2.9	1.3	1.6	2.5	2.8	.4	.4	2.0	2.5	.3	.3	.2	.2	1.0	1.0	27.4	31.8
12	5.6	6.7	.2	.3	2.2	2.9	1.4	1.9	2.4	2.8	.3	.4	2.1	2.7	.3	.3	.2	.2	1.0	1.2	27.7	33.2
19	5.6	6.7	.2	.3	2.4	3.0	1.3	1.8	2.4	2.8	.4	.5	2.1	2.7	.3	.3	.2	.2	1.0	1.0	28.0	33.3
26	5.9	6.8	.2	.3	2.2	3.1	1.4	1.8	2.4	3.0	.4	.5	2.1	2.7	.3	.4	.2	.2	1.0	1.0	28.6	33.7
May 3	5.9	6.9	.2	.3	2.3	3.1	1.5	1.9	2.5	3.1	.4	.5	2.0	2.7	.3	.4	.2	.2	1.0	1.0	28.5	33.9
10	6.0	6.9	.2	.3	2.3	3.2	1.5	1.9	2.4	3.1	.4	.5	2.1	2.9	.3	.3	.2	.2	1.1	1.1	28.9	34.9
17	6.0	7.2	.2	.3	2.3	3.1	1.4	2.0	2.4	3.1	.4	.5	2.1	2.9	.3	.4	.2	.2	1.0	1.2	28.4	35.5
24	6.0	7.1	.2	.3	2.2	3.5	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.3	.4	.5	2.1	3.0	.3	.4	.2	.2	.9	1.1	28.8	36.4
31	6.1	7.2	.3	.2	2.4	3.4	1.5	2.1	2.4	3.2	.4	.5	2.1	3.0	.3	.4	.2	.2	1.0	1.2	28.8	36.5
June 7	6.1	7.1	.2	.3	2.3	3.3	1.6	2.1	2.7	3.4	.4	.5	2.2	3.0	.3	.4	.1	.2	.9	1.1	29.3	36.6
14	6.2	7.1	.2	.3	2.3	3.3	1.5	2.1	2.4	3.4	.4	.5	2.3	3.0	.3	.5	.2	.2	.9	1.1	29.3	36.9
21	6.1	7.2	.2	.3	2.4	3.4	1.5	2.1	2.6	3.3	.4	.5	2.3	3.0	.3	.4	.2	.2	.9	1.2	29.8	36.9
28	6.1	6.9	.2	.3	2.4	3.3	1.5	2.2	2.6	3.2	.4	.5	2.2	3.0	.3	.4	.2	.2	.8	1.2	29.3	36.2
July 5	6.1	6.7	.2	.2	2.2	3.2	1.5	2.2	2.6	3.1	.4	.4	2.3	2.8	.2	.4	.2	.2	.9	1.2	29.3	35.4
12	6.1	6.9	.3	.2	2.2	3.0	1.6	2.2	2.5	3.1	.4	.5	2.1	2.6	.2	.4	.2	.2	.9	1.2	29.4	34.9
19	6.0	6.3	.2	.2	2.3	2.9	1.6	2.1	2.5	3.1	.4	.5	2.0	2.5	.3	.4	.2	.2	1.0	1.1	28.7	33.8
26	5.9	6.3	.2	.2	2.2	3.0	1.6	2.1	2.6	3.0	.3	.5	2.0	2.4	.3	.4	.2	.2	.9	1.1	28.4	33.4
Aug. 2	6.0	6.2	.2	.2	2.1	2.8	1.4	2.1	2.5	2.9	.4	.4	1.9	2.3	.2	.3	.2	.2	.8	1.1	27.5	32.4
9	5.8	6.0	.2	.2	2.1	2.8	1.3	2.0	2.3	2.9	.3	.4	1.8	2.3	.2	.4	.1	.2	.8	1.1	27.1	32.0
16	5.6	5.9	.2	.2	2.2	2.8	1.3	1.9	2.1	2.8	.3	.4	1.9	2.2	.3	.4	.2	.2	.9	1.0	26.6	31.2
23	5.5	5.7	.2	.2	2.1	2.6	1.3	1.8	2.0	2.9	.4	.5	1.8	2.0	.3	.3	.1	.2	.8	.9	25.9	30.0
30	5.4	5.5	.2	.2	1.9	2.4	1.3	1.7	2.0	2.6	.3	.4	1.8	1.9	.2	.3	.1	.1	.9	.8	25.5	28.9
Sept. 6	5.3	5.2	.2	.2	2.0	2.4	1.2	1.7	2.0	2.4	.4	.4	1.9	1.9	.2	.4	.1	.2	.8	.9	25.2	28.1
13	5.1	5.0	.2	.2	1.9	2.4	1.3	1.6	2.1	2.3	.4	.4	1.8	1.7	.2	.3	.1	.2	.9	.9	25.0	27.3
20	4.8	4.9	.3	.2	1.9	2.3	1.3	1.7	2.1	2.3	.4	.4	1.9	1.6	.2	.2	.1	.2	.9	.9	24.3	25.8
27	4.9	4.9	.2	.2	1.9	2.3	1.2	1.7	2.0	2.2	.3	.3	1.9	1.5	.2	.3	.1	.2	.7	.8	24.1	25.5
Oct. 4	4.8	5.2	.2	.1	2.0	2.4	1.3	1.8	1.9	2.4	.4	.4	1.8	2.0	.2	.2	.1	.1	.9	.9	24.7	27.1
11	4.8	5.1	.2	.2	2.0	2.6	1.3	1.7	2.0	2.4	.4	.4	2.0	2.2	.2	.3	.1	.1	.9	.8	24.2	27.3
18	4.9	5.1	.2	.2	2.1	2.4	1.2	1.7	2.0	2.4	.4	.3	1.9	2.1	.1	.2	.1	.1	.7	.8	23.9	26.2
25	4.8	5.0	.2	.2	1.9	2.3	1.2	1.7	2.0	2.5	.3	.4	1.6	2.0	.2	.3	.1	.1	.8	.8	23.4	26.1
Nov. 1	4.9	5.1	.2	.2	2.1	2.5	1.3	1.7	1.9	2.5	.2	.3	1.6	2.1	.2	.3	.1	.1	.8	.8	23.6	27.2
8	5.1	5.1	.2	.2	2.1	2.7	1.3	1.7	2.0	2.3	.2	.4	1.6	2.2	.2	.2	.1	.2	.9	.8	24.2	27.4
15	4.9	5.0	.2	.2	2.0	2.7	1.3	1.8	2.1	2.5	.3	.4	1.7	2.3	.2	.3	.1	.2	.9	.8	24.5	27.7
22	5.0	5.2	.2	.2	2.0	2.7	1.2	1.8	2.0	2.6	.3	.4	1.8	2.3	.2	.3	.1	.2	.8	.9	24.6	28.4
29	5.0	5.3	.2	.2	2.0	2.7	1.2	1.8	2.2	2.7	.3	.5	1.6	2.3	.2	.3	.1	.1	.8	.8	24.5	28.8
Dec. 6	5.0	5.4	.2	.2	2.0	2.6	1.2	1.9	2.2	2.9	.3	.5	1.7	2.2	.2	.3	.1	.2	.8	1.0	24.8	29.3
13	5.1	5.3	.2	.2	2.1	2.8	1.2	2.0	2.3	3.0	.3	.5	1.7	2.2	.2	.3	.2	.3	.9	.9	25.3	30.0
20	5.1	5.7	.3	.2	2.1	2.9	1.3	2.0	2.3	3.1	.3	.4	1.7	2.1	.2	.3	.1	.2	.9	.8	25.7	30.6
27	5.2	5.4	.2	.2	2.3	2.4	1.2	2.0	2.2	3.2	.3	.4	1.8	2.1	.2	.3	.1	.2	.8	.9	25.3	29.0
Total	281.3	311.1	11.2	11.8	111.4	142.4	71.0	93.6	118.6	144.6	18.1	22.3	103.3	122.8	12.3	16.8	7.7	9.3	46.4	50.7	1,380.0	1,601.3

1958 placements that are lower than the corresponding 1957 figures are underlined.

Table 16.--Turkeys: Indicators of size of crop, 1959

Item	Volume, current season, as a percentage of year before --				
	Heavy-type turkeys			Beltsville-type turkeys	All turkeys
	White-feathered turkeys	Bronze turkeys	All heavy turkeys		
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Hatchings, Sept. 1-Mar. 1	152	89	111	178	127
Eggs in incubators, Mar. 1	120	95	100	134	106
Breeders tested, July 1 to Mar. 1.	157	99	109	140	112
Intentions (Oct. 1) on size of Jan. 1 breeder flock	125	104	107	138	111
Actual size of later breeding flock			103	134	107
Intentions to raise turkeys, 1959	118	99	103	116	105

Table 17.--Turkeys: Composition of storage stocks, available data, September 30, 1954 to date

Item	Unit	Date of reported holdings									
		September 30					January 31				
		1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959 1/
		(a) Percentage breakdown of reported holdings 2/ 3/									
Class of turkey:											
Eviscerated											
Toms	Pct.	41	30	33	60	45	72	74	79	84	69
Hens	Pct.	46	55	56	33	48	18	17	16	11	25
Broiler-fryer type	Pct.	7	13	10	6	6	4	5	4	4	5
N. Y. dressed											
Toms	Pct.	5	1	1	4/	4/	4	3	1	1	4/
Hens	Pct.	1	1	1	4/	4/	2	1	4/	4/	4/
		(b) Size of reported sample and total U. S. holdings									
Size of sample on which percentages are based	Mil.lb.	50	48	59	97	103	80	70	108	115	96
U. S. cold storage holdings	Mil.lb.	78	77	98	149	161	124	96	170	179	160

1/ A U. S. D. A. survey on this date gave the following distribution by weight classes among a sample of 30 million pounds: 8 lb. and under, 14 pct; over 8 but less than 16 lb., 35 pct.; over 16 but less than 22 lb., 16 pct.; over 22 lb., 35 pct. A similar breakdown for a small sample was reported for March 1.

2/ May not add to 100 due to rounding.

3/ Based on sample.

4/ Less than 0.5 pct.

Table 18.--Turkeys: Number raised, 1953-58, United States, and intentions to raise turkeys, by divisions 1959

Year and division	Heavy breeds			Light breeds	All turkeys
	White 1/	Other 1/	Total 2/		
	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million
Number raised					
1953			43.4	16.4	59.8
1954			48.5	19.2	67.7
1955			48.8	16.8	65.6
1956	15.8	47.2	63.1	13.6	76.7
1957: 3/					
U. S. total	15.2	52.7	67.8	13.4	81.2
North Atlantic	2.2	1.5	3.7	0.3	3.9
East North Central	3.3	5.9	9.2	1.7	11.0
West North Central	5.9	14.4	20.3	2.2	22.5
South Atlantic	1.4	5.6	7.0	6.4	13.5
South Central	1.8	6.2	8.0	1.2	9.2
Western	0.6	19.0	19.6	1.5	21.1
1958: 3/					
U. S. total	13.7	52.1	65.8	12.1	77.9
North Atlantic	1.8	1.2	3.0	0.2	3.2
East North Central	3.4	5.8	9.2	1.5	10.7
West North Central	6.3	14.8	21.1	2.4	23.5
South Atlantic	0.6	5.1	5.7	6.1	11.9
South Central	1.2	6.0	7.2	1.1	8.3
Western	.4	19.2	19.6	.8	20.3
Intentions to raise turkeys, 1959 4/					
U. S. total	16.1	51.6	67.7	14.1	81.9
North Atlantic	1.7	1.3	2.9	0.2	3.1
East North Central	4.1	5.5	9.6	1.9	11.5
West North Central	7.9	15.4	23.3	2.8	26.1
South Atlantic	0.9	4.4	5.2	7.1	12.3
South Central	1.2	5.9	7.1	1.2	8.3
Western	.4	19.1	19.5	1.0	20.5

1/ Derived.

2/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

3/ Preliminary.

4/ As of January, 1959.

Table 19.--Turkey breeders: Testings, intentions, January 1 numbers, and subsequent numbers of turkeys raised; available data, by breed types, 1945 to date

Year	Turkeys tested under NPIP		Intentions to keep breeders, Jan. 1 1/	Breeders on farms, Jan. 1		Intentions to raise turkeys as a percent of previous year	Turkeys raised		
	12 months ending, July 1	8 months ending, Mar. 1		As reported	As a percent of previous year		As reported	As a percent of previous year	Per Jan. 1 breeder
	Million	Million	Percent	Million	Percent	Percent	Million	Percent	Number
				(a) All turkeys					
1945				4.5	107	108	42.9	122	9.5
1946				4.8	107	95	40.1	94	8.3
1947				3.8	78	84	34.0	85	9.0
1948				2.5	67	82	31.5	93	12.4
1949				3.1	124	125	41.3	131	13.1
1950				3.3	104	101	44.4	108	13.6
1951				3.2	98	101	53.3	120	16.6
1952				3.7	115	111	62.3	117	16.9
1953	2.7	2.6		3.2	86	92	59.8	96	18.9
1954	3.0	2.8		3.1	98	107	67.7	113	21.9
1955	2.9	2.7		3.0	97	96	65.6	97	21.8
1956	3.1	2.9	112	3.2	107	106	76.7	117	23.8
1957	3.8	3.6	114	3.7	114	110	81.2	106	22.1
1958	3.5	3.2	95	3.4	93	101	77.9	96	22.8
1959		3.6	111	3.7	107	105			
				(b) Heavy-breed turkeys					
1950							2/39.1		
1951							2/42.1	108	
1952							2/44.3	105	
1953	2.3	2.2		3/		97	43.4	98	
1954	2.2	2.2		2.4	91	106	48.5	112	19.9
1955	2.4	2.3		2.5	102	100	48.8	101	19.7
1956	2.7	2.5	113	2.8	112	114	63.1	129	22.7
1957	3.3	3.2	116	3.2	115	113	67.8	107	21.2
1958	3.0	2.9	96	3.0	93	103	65.8	97	22.0
1959		3.1	107	3.1	103	103			
				(c) Light-breed turkeys					
1950							2/5.3		
1951							2/11.2	211	
1952							2/18.1	162	
1953	0.5	0.4		3/		77	16.4	91	
1954	.8	.6		0.7	140	109	19.2	117	29.2
1955	.6	.5		.5	81	89	16.8	88	31.5
1956	.5	.4	107	.5	86	84	13.6	81	29.9
1957	.5	.4	97	.5	105	97	13.4	99	28.0
1958	.5	.4	87	.4	94	89	12.1	90	28.6
1959		.5	138	.6	134	116			

1/ Intentions as of preceding October.
2/ Derived.
3/ Data not comparable.

Table 20 Turkey poults: Monthly hatchings in commercial hatcheries, available data, and calendar year totals of turkeys raised, United States, September 1953 to date

Year	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Number raised 1/
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
(a) All turkeys													
1953-54	0.5	.4	.7	1.7	3.0	5.0	11.2	16.2	16.7	10.8	3.9	1.4	67.7
1954-55	0.7	.7	1.2	2.2	2.6	3.8	8.9	14.6	17.2	11.6	4.3	1.5	65.6
1955-56	0.6	.5	.9	1.9	2.9	5.7	12.4	17.8	19.6	13.4	5.3	1.8	76.7
1956-57	0.7	.7	1.5	3.1	4.3	6.7	13.2	18.8	20.0	13.2	4.8	1.6	81.2
1957-58	0.6	.5	1.0	2.1	3.3	5.5	11.7	17.1	19.1	13.8	6.4	2.0	2/77.9
1958-59	1.1	1.2	1.7	2.8	3.9								
(b) Light-breed turkeys													
1953-54	0.4	.4	.7	1.3	1.8	1.7	1.8	2.3	3.3	3.0	2.4	1.3	19.2
1954-55	0.7	.7	1.0	1.7	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.8	2.4	2.6	2.2	1.2	16.8
1955-56	0.4	.3	.5	.9	.9	.8	1.0	1.6	2.4	2.5	2.2	1.1	13.6
1956-57	0.4	.3	.7	1.1	1.0	.8	1.1	1.6	2.4	2.3	1.9	.9	13.4
1957-58	0.2	.2	.3	.6	.8	1.0	1.1	1.5	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.1	2/12.1
1958-59	0.5	.5	.6	1.1	1.5								
(c) All heavy-breed turkeys													
1953-54	3/	3/	0.1	.3	1.2	3.4	9.4	13.9	13.4	7.7	1.4	.1	48.5
1954-55	3/	0.1	.2	.5	1.2	2.7	7.8	12.8	14.8	9.0	2.1	.3	48.8
1955-56	0.1	.2	.4	1.0	2.0	4.9	11.4	16.3	17.2	11.0	3.1	.7	63.1
1956-57	0.3	.4	.8	2.0	3.3	5.8	12.1	17.2	17.6	11.0	2.9	.7	67.8
1957-58	0.3	.4	.7	1.5	2.5	4.5	10.6	15.6	16.9	11.7	4.4	.9	2/65.8
1958-59	0.5	.7	1.1	1.7	2.4								
(d) Light-feathered heavy-breed turkeys													
1955-56	4/	4/	4/	4/	0.9	1.2	1.9	3.0	3.7	2.8	1.6	.7	15.8
1956-57	0.3	.4	.6	.9	1.1	1.1	1.6	2.5	3.3	2.6	1.3	.6	14.9
1957-58	0.3	.3	.5	.7	.7	.9	1.3	2.1	3.0	2.4	1.6	.8	2/13.7
1958-59	0.5	.6	.8	1.1	1.2								
(e) Other heavy-breed turkeys													
1955-56	4/	4/	4/	4/	1.1	3.8	9.5	13.3	13.5	8.2	1.5	3/	47.4
1956-57	3/	3/	0.2	1.1	2.2	4.7	10.4	14.7	14.3	8.4	1.6	.1	52.9
1957-58	3/	0.1	.2	.8	1.7	3.6	9.2	13.5	13.9	9.3	2.9	.1	2/52.1
1958-59	3/	0.1	.2	.6	1.2								

1/ In calendar year beginning January.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Less than 0.05 million.

4/ Reported series began January 1956.

Table 21.--Turkey prices, per pound: Selected series, June 1954 to date

Season	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
(a) Average farm price, mid-month (live), United States												
1954-55	31.3	28.6	27.8	27.6	27.0	28.5	29.6	27.4	29.5	30.4	29.7	28.9
1955-56	29.4	29.6	29.5	31.0	31.2	29.8	30.5	30.6	31.0	31.3	30.8	30.6
1956-57	29.1	28.6	28.3	26.7	25.9	25.9	27.8	26.6	25.3	25.5	25.8	24.2
1957-58	23.3	21.8	22.7	22.9	22.3	23.5	24.5	22.6	24.7	27.1	26.5	27.1
1958-59	25.6	24.6	24.9	23.7	24.0	23.1	23.3	23.9	24.9			
(b) Live, heavy-type young toms, San Joaquin Valley, California, first day of month 1/												
1954-55	25-26	24-25	24-25	24	22-22½	23-24	23-24	21½-23	---	---	---	---
1955-56	25-26	28	27	27-29½	29-30	26½-27	26½-27	---	---	---	---	---
1956-57	30-33	28	25-26	24½-26	25-25½	23-24½	26-28	---	---	---	---	---
1957-58	20-21	17	18-19	21	19½	18½-19	20-21	17-19	---	---	---	---
1958-59	22-23	21	23	20-21	20	19-19½	20.	24	---	---		
(c) Live, heavy-type hens, San Joaquin Valley, California, first day of month 1/												
1954-55	26	28	28	28	28	31-32	31½-32	---	---	---	---	---
1955-56	25-26	30	29	30½-31	34½-35	33	31½-32½	---	---	---	---	---
1956-57	31	27-28	26½	27½-28	27-27½	25½-26	25½-26	---	---	---	---	24
1957-58	22	20	20-21	21½-22	22	22-22½	27-27¼	24	---	---	---	---
1958-59	28	26	26½	24	24-24½	23-23½	22-23	24	---	---		
(d) Frozen eviscerated toms, heaviest weights quoted, New York City, first day of month 1/												
1954-55	50-52	46½-49	47-49	47-49	46½-49	44-48	43½-46	43-45	44-48	44½-48	46-49	47½-50½
1955-56	48½-52½	49½-53	51-54	55½-57	50½-54	48-50	47½-48½	53-54	54-55	54-55	57½-58	61½-62
1956-57	64-65	65-65½	65½-66	60-61	50-52	43-44½	48-49½	47½-49	46-47	44-44½	45-46½	42-44
1957-58	44-45	40-43	40-41	37½-40½	38-39½	38-40½	40-41½	39-41	38½-41	38½-40½	38½-40½	41-42
1958-59	42½-43½	42-43	40½-42	39-41	40-43	39½-43	39-43	40½-44	44-46½	44-46½		
(e) Frozen eviscerated hens, 12-14 pounds, New York City, first day of month 1/												
1954-55	---	51-53	45½-48	48-49½	47-49	49½-51	51-53	48-51	48-51	48-50	48-50	51½-53½
1955-56	51½-53½	50-52	48-49½	49½-51	51-52½	52-54	50½-52	50-51	50-51	49½-51	50-51½	53½-54
1956-57	52½-53½	47-48½	46-47	43½-44½	44-44½	44-45	44-45½	42-43	39-40	39½-41½	42½-43½	---
1957-58	42½-43½	---	37-38	37½-38	38-39	40-40½	43-44	43-44	43-44	46-47	50-50½	2/45-46
1958-59	49-50	45-46	41½-42½	40-41½	40-41½	40-41½	39-41	39-40½	40-41	40-41		
(f) Live, Beltsville Small Whites, Shenandoah Valley, Virginia and West Virginia, first day of month 1/												
1954-55	30-31	27-29½	26-26½	27½-28	29	31-32	32	28	30	30	30	31
1955-56	31	30½-31	30-30½	30-30½	30½-31	30-31½	28-28½	29½	---	33	30-31	29-30
1956-57	29	26½-27	26½	25-26	25	25½-26	26-27	26	26-27	26	26	24-25
1957-58	23-23½	23	23	23-23½	23-23½	24½-25	30	24-25	27	30	30	28½-30
1958-59	28	25-26	24½-25	24-25	24-24½	25½-26½	24-25	23	25	25-25½		
(g) Live, heavy-type toms, Iowa, first Friday of month 3/												
1954-55	---	---	24½	26	24-24½	23-24	25-25½	20-23	---	23½	---	20-22
1955-56	---	---	27	29-31	30	26-27	28-28½	---	---	---	---	28-30½
1956-57	28-30	28	29-30	25-25½	24-25	23-23½	27-30	---	---	---	---	---
1957-58	---	21	20	19½-20½	20-20½	20	22-22¾	21	---	---	---	---
1958-59	---	---	24	22	22-22¼	20	20-21½	---	---	---		
(h) Live, heavy-type hens, Iowa, first Friday of month 3/												
1954-55	---	---	28	30¼-30½	29-30	32½-33	35-35½	---	27½	---	---	---
1955-56	---	32-33	30½-31½	34	37	33	32-34	---	---	---	---	28-28½
1956-57	27½-28	28	28½	26-26½	27½-28	27-27½	28-28½	---	---	---	---	---
1957-58	---	21½-22	23	22-23	23-24	25	28-28¼	---	---	---	---	---
1958-59	---	27	26½-27	25	26-26½	24	23	---	---	---		

1/ Or next date when quotation is available.

2/ 14-15 pounds.

3/ Beginning 1958, first day of month, or first day thereafter.

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